Proposal for Visa-on-Arrival

2549. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL:
SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI:
SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering a proposal to introduce Visa-on-Arrival to citizens of friendly countries;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal and the names of friendly countries who would be entitled for the scheme; and

(c) by when the scheme are likely to be operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) A proposal has been received from the Ministry of Tourism for introduction of Visa-on-Arrival scheme to citizens of some friendly countries It has not been found feasible to introduce this scheme at present.

Violence by ULFA

2550. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:
SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the update scenario of violence and casualties by ULFA in Assam during three years;

(b) ULFA threat to Hindi-speaking and other outsiders to leave the State and the number of persons killed, injured;

(c) the steps taken to counter it;

(d) whether ULFA has established bases in Nepal, Myanmar and Bangladesh;

(e) whether the Minister of External Affairs during his last visit to Myanmar, discussed the issue of stepped up violence by ULFA; and

(f) if so, its outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RADHIKA V. SELVI): (a) and (b) Details of violent incidents and casualties by United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA) in Assam during the last three years and current year (upto 31st March, 2008) is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) The Central Government has been maintaining close and continuous coordination with the State Government and supplementing their efforts on a continuing basis with the aim of putting in place effective measures to control the activities of the various militant groups. The steps taken in this regard, *inter-alia*, include deployment of Central Security Forces, including Army, to assist the State police, sharing of intelligence, provision of assistance to the State Government for strengthening and modernization of the local people, raising of India Reserve Battalions, reimbursement of security related expenditure to the State Government, etc. Security Forces have been continuing sustained Counter Insurgency (CI) Operations against the militant outfit in Assam. Due to sustained CI operations, a number

of cadres and middle level leaders of ULFA surrendered and were arrested/killed. The situation is being reviewed and monitored on a regular basis.

(d) to (f) While available inputs indicate about the existence of camps of Indian insurgent Groups (IIGs) in Myanmar and Bangladesh, no specific report is available about such camps in Nepal. In so far as Myanmar and Bangladesh are concerned, these issues are taken up at bilateral interaction at various levels including Home Secretary Level talks.

At the time of visit of Minister of External Affairs to Myanmar in January, 2007, the full range of bilateral relations including activities of IIGs on Indo-Myanmar Border was discussed. In these bilateral interactions, Government of Myanmar reiterated that no part of its territory would be allowed by insurgents in carrying out undesirable activities against India.

The matter continues to be regularly taken up with Governments of Myanmar and Bangladesh during bilateral talks and interactions at various levels. Details of violent incidents and casualties by United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA) in Assam during the last three years and current year (upto 31st March 2008) is as under:

Statement

Year	No. of incidents	No. of persons including Security Forces personnel killed	No. of cadres of various millitant outfits arrested/killed/surrendered
2005	185	038	544
2006	209	105	752
2007	235	198	759
2008 (upto 31.3.2008)	054	021	293.

ULFA Millitants had killed 61 Hindi speaking persons mostly labourers and petty vendors in January, 2007 and 10 such persons in May, 2007. In the spree of violence against this vulnerable section, combined groups of ULFA and Karbi Anglong Longri N.C. Hills Liberation Front (KLNLF), militants had killed 30 persons (28 Hindi speaking) between 8-12 August, 2007 in Karbi Anglong district.

Floodlighting and electrified security fence along IB

2551. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to move ahead with floodlighting all along the Indo-Bangladesh border fence;

(b) whether the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Border Security Force have finalized plans to realign the electrified security fence along the Pakistan frontier to bring more than 4,000 acres of fertile farmland back to Indian cultivators;